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SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

I.	CHINA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
II.	EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
III.	SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
IV.	EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged
V.	NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include: Middle East & South Asia Review Inter-Arab Affairs Islamic Affairs Palestinian Affairs OPEC Affairs South Asian Regional Affairs Arab Africa Algeria Chad Egypt Libya Mauritania Morocco Sudan Tunisia Western Sahara Arabian Peninsula Bahrain Kuwait Oman PDRY Qatar Saudi Arabia United Arab Emirates Yemen Arab Republic Iraq Israel Jordan Lebanon Syria South Asia Afghanistan Bangladesh India Iran Maldives Nepal & Bhutan Pakistan Sri Lanka
VI.	LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged

(continued on back of report)

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MAY 1987

Gulf War

Iraqi warplanes carried out "armed aerial activity" in the Gulf sector where the U.S. frigate *Stark* was attacked, according to a spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry cited by Voice of the Masses radio 18 May. The spokesman declared that if Iraqi planes were responsible for the 17 May attack in which several U.S. sailors died, then it must have been the "result of a possible mixup and confusion," and Iraq "will have the courage" to confirm and announce its "error."

In addition to the attack on the *Stark*, a Soviet tanker was damaged when it hit a mine in the Gulf, TASS reported 17 May. Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi commented that the two incidents demonstrate that the Gulf "is not secure for the superpowers," in remarks cited by IRNA. Musavi declared that Washington has "lost face" and will have difficulty explaining the "embarassing issue" of its support for Iraq to the U.S. and world public. Musavi had previously reiterated to the visiting Omani foreign affairs official Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah that security in the Gulf can only be attained "by not supporting" Iraq, Tehran radio reported. The official arrived 16 May to deliver messages from Sultan Qabus and to discuss "common interests."

Iraqi warplanes also hit two large maritime targets off the Iranian coast 17 May, according to Iraqi military statements reported by INA. Athens radio noted that a Cypriot tanker was damaged by an air strike. IRNA announced an Iranian air attack on the northern Iraqi city of Dahuk the same day, although INA cited an Iraqi spokesman's statement that Iranian planes were "forced to flee" by Iraqi air defenses.

In earlier action, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated that Iraqi planes carried out a "destructive" raid on the Ahvaz oil fields 15 May, turning their targets into "rubble with billowing flames." For Iran's part, IRNA reported that Iranian artillery shelled the Iraqi port of 'Umm Qasr over the weekend in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian industrial targets.

As for the naval war, INA announced that Iraq repulsed a 16 May Iranian gunboat attack on Iraq's Al-'Amiq port, sinking one of the seven Iranian vessels.

IRNA continued to highlight the Iraqi Kurdish uprising in recent reports, asserting that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's talks with military commanders and governors from the northeast border region shows the Iraqi regime is "terribly concerned" about the "increasing turmoil" in that area. An INA report confirmed that Saddam Husayn met with the commanders of the I and V Army Corps 15 May, but it did not mention the presence of governors at the meeting.

Syria

Foreign Relations — A 16 May Damascus radio commentary condemned the U.S. decision to make the restoration of full diplomatic relations subject to certain conditions, including the stipulation that Syria stop supporting terrorism. The radio reaffirmed Syria's "principled" stand against terrorism and stressed that life will continue to be normal "with or without the presence of a U.S. ambassador."

Regarding relations with the USSR, a 16 May article in Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* contended that during President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev promised Al-Asad that the Soviet Union will not accept the convocation of an international Middle East peace conference without Syria's participation. Citing "well-informed Arab sources," the paper added that this pledge was made because of Soviet and Syrian concern about a "strong current" in the U.S. Administration that seeks to hold Arab-Israeli negotiations without the participation of Syria and the PLO.

Despite the earlier *Al-Qabas* report that Al-Asad and the Iraqi president have agreed to scale down hostile propaganda campaigns, the Baghdad paper *Al-'Iraq* lambasted Syria's "treasonous" support for Iran in a 13 May article which spoke of Syria's "opportunist and low" policy and predicted that the "suspect" Syrian-Iranian alliance will soon break up.

Coup Denial — An information spokesman in Damascus denied recent "rumors" about a coup attempt by air force pilots, Radio Monte Carlo reported 15 May.

Palestinian Affairs

A 17 May statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee called for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East within the framework of the United Nations and with the participation of permanent members of the Security Council and the parties concerned, "including the PLO on an equal basis," APS reported. The statement, which came at the end of a 4-day meeting in Tunis chaired by Yasir 'Arafat, stressed the committee's "unswerving determination" to protect Palestinian unity achieved at the recent PNC conference and called on Syria to "open a new chapter" in its relations with the PLO.

In a related development, an official PLO delegation headed by Faruq Qaddumi arrived in the Libyan capital for talks to "reinforce bilateral relations," Tripoli radio reported.

Israel

The Shinuy Movement announced its withdrawal from the coalition government 17 May, stating that it hopes the Labor Party

will follow suit, Jerusalem radio reported.

Tunisia

In remarks cited by Tunis radio 16 May, Prime Minister Rachid Sfar announced a partial resuffle of some officials responsible for domestic and social sectors. Among the changes, Amor Chedli was appointed director of the cabinet while former Director Mansour Shkiri was named minister of supplies, housing, and transport. On the same day, the Tunis radio press review noted that *L'amal* and *L'action* ran articles that urged a "firm stand against the elements of anarchy and extremism" who engage in "political opportunism."

Sudan

Six Sudanese citizens were killed and seven injured 16 May when Ethiopian tanks fired on a truck near the border town of Kassala, according to an *Al-Usbu'* report cited by SUNA.

Cuban soldiers have participated in rebel military operations in southern Sudan, according to an *Adwa'* report cited by MENA. The report adds that "hundreds" of Cuban soldiers stationed in Ethiopia recently crossed over into Sudan.

Egypt

IMF Agreement — An agreement with the IMF signed 15 May grants Egypt $325 million in assistance through November 1988, MENA reported.

New Extremist Organization — An extremist religious organization linked to Iran has been uncovered by the investigation into the assassination attempt against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, according to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*. The paper said 37 members of the organization have been arrested.

PDRY-USSR Relations

In a predeparture statement, Defense Minister Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad declared that his visit to Moscow is aimed at "consolidating" bilateral military relations, Aden radio reported 15 May. The minister noted that the YSP has made new strides in "military construction" with the aim of "securing" the gains of the revolution.

Afghanistan

PDPA General Secretary Najibullah discussed his plans for national reconciliation during an address broadcast by Kabul radio 11 May, indicating that he envisages a multiparty system involving parties that are "united by a joint and unique platform of national reconciliation." Other parties should "freely" carry out their political activities while the PDPA will continue its "uniting and mobilizing role" as the "main force" in society. The program and platform of a national unity government may well be different from the PDPA's program, he added. Najibullah also stressed the need for "openness" and he answered a number of questions that were sharply critical of PDPA officials and practices. In one of his answers, Najibullah praised former DRA Presidents Nur Mohammad Taraki and Babrak Karmal for their "unforgettable" role in serving the revolution. As for the followers of Hafizullah Amin, the DRA leader deposed by Soviet forces in 1979, Najibullah disclosed that a number of personalities from Amin's administration were among 5,600 prisoners released in the recent amnesty.

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Foreign Minister Discusses Soviet Troops

LD161112 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1010 GMT 16 May 87

[By Aleksandar Novacic]

[Text] Kabul, May 16 (TANJUG) — The national reconciliation policy is beginning to give results, but Afghanistan is still faced with political and military pressures — Afghan Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil told journalists invited to a three-day visit to Kabul. He said the government would continue its course and will not give up the reconciliation policy, but added that if someone wanted a fight, he would get it.

There are many different interests in Afghanistan and around it. Problems which have been accumulating for almost ten years can hardly be solved in a few months' time. It is known that Kabul mostly blames the United States and Pakistan for the situation. They have now stepped up their "unannounced war against Afghanistan", Wakil said.

About the withdrawal of Soviet troops, Wakil asked the journalists how they could expect Afghanistan to ask for the withdrawal of Soviet troops in such a situation.

Pressed for an answer he said he was no astrologer to tell the future.

The eight-year-long Soviet military presence is a factor which the Kabul government most seriously counts on. But at the same time it is the weakest point in overall Soviet policy criticized by many.

Last year's withdrawal of part of the Soviet contingent was given large publicity, which was interpreted as a wish that all Soviet troops from Afghanistan return to their country. There has lately been little mention of possible further withdrawals.

The problem of Afghanistan is on the agenda not only at the Geneva talks, but also direct Soviet-U.S. meetings. Deadlines for Soviet withdrawals are being proposed in Geneva. It seems that the Soviet Union is ready to set the deadline at less than one year providing the U.S. and Pakistan stop sending military aid to the rebels and offer international guarantees that "outside interference" will not be renewed.

Certain diplomats in Kabul maintain that a possible Soviet military withdrawal can be considered only as part of a wider agreement on a regional scale and in Afghanistan itself. A prerequisite for this are compromises in different fields.

A high price has already been paid — 600,000 Afghans are dead, many more wounded, three million are homeless and living in refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran. In a country where schools were scarce, 1,300 of them have been destroyed.

After a brief visit to Kabul, the impression is that the path of national reconciliation is perhaps the only real chance for Afghanistan. The general Secretary of the Afghan Party Dr Najibullah said Afghanistan must become independent, neutral and non-aligned.

Heads for CSSR, Poland, Bulgaria

LD171515 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 17 May 87

[Excerpt] Kabul, 17 May (BAKHTAR) Comrade Abdol Wakil, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and DRA foreign affairs minister, left this morning as head of a delegation to pay an official friendly visit to the CSSR, People's Republic of Poland, and Bulgaria. [passage omitted]

USSR's Aristov Continues Kabul Talks 17 May

LD180558 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Kabul, May 17, BAKHTAR — Abdul Wakil, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of foreign affairs of the DRA, met with Boris Ivanovich Aristov, minister of foreign trade of the USSR here today. Views were exchanged on matters of mutual interests during the meeting.

The minister of foreign trade of the Soviet Union had also meeting with Seyed Amanuddin Amin, deputy-chairman of council of ministers of the DRA and Jalalar minister of trade of the DRA.

Matters concerning the expansion of trade relations between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union were discussed during the meeting. The two sides reached an understanding on the opening of a sale store of Afghan export items including handicrafts in Moscow and other major cities of the Soviet Union as well as the commencement of the activities of Afghan-Soviet mixed trade companies.

They agreed to establish a balance for the volume of export and import in private sector with Soviet Union which will promote trade relations and encourage national capital-holders in promoting trade with the Soviet Union.

Arms Convoy Seized in Logar Province

LD161619 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Bakhtar reports that a devilish plan by extremist opposition groups, who intended to move a major arms and ammunition convoy from Logar province to the central parts of the country to disturb the peace and tranquillity in those areas was thwarted as a result of the patriotic cooperation of the noble people of Logar Province with the province's National Reconciliation Commission.

The toiling people of Logar province recently contacted the National Reconciliation commission and discussed the extremist elements plan to transport the arms and ammunition. They demanded that the issue be discussed with the country's security forces. After receiving the people's request of the people took action the alert security forces and, while observing the ceasefire, surrounded the regions of Badak, Abchakan and Niazak in Logar Province which the convoy of arms and ammunition was intended to pass through. As a result, all the arms and ammunition of the convoy, including surface-to-air guided missiles,

recoilless guns, ZK-1, Dshks, and thousands of surface-to-surface missiles were seized by the security forces and taken away.

The toiling people of Logar expressed their appreciation of this brave action by the security forces and promised not to spare any patriotic cooperation in implementing the national reconciliation policy.

'Extremists' in North Fire on Worshippers

LD180600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Kabul, May 17, BAKHTAR — The Afghan extremist elements committed another outrageous crime against the civilian population of Maimana City, the centre of Faryab Province, north of the country on Friday evening.

As a result of this barbaric action five persons including women and children were martyred and three other were injured.

They blasted with mortar fire a number of residential areas when the worshippers were performing their prayers and breaking their fasts.

The extremists are trying to intimidate the people who sincerely support the policy of national reconciliation aimed at ending bloodshed in the country and to create obstacles on the way of this process which is going on successfully all over the country.

12,000 Soldiers Reportedly Desert Units

LD161806 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Islamabad, May 16, IRNA — According to a secret Kabul Government report 12,000 Afghan soldiers have deserted their units over the past six months, Rawalpindi-based daily "*Jang*" reported here today.

The daily said the number only includes soldiers who have arrived in Pakistan and sought political asylum.

The figure would exceed 2,000 soldiers per month if Afghan deserters who had joined Afghan Mojahedin or sought asylum in Iran are added to it, said the daily.

Resistance Leader on Ties With USSR Muslims

AU151440 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1000 GMT 15 May 87

[Raimund Loew Report]

[Text] (Asad Ula Ahmadi) marched 4 weeks from his Northern province of Takhar through half of Afghanistan to reach Peshawar in Pakistan where most Afghan resistance organizations have their headquarters. During a visit to Vienna the 27-year old local commander of the Mujahidin, that is, the Afghan partisans, wears the traditional dress of his country: a turban, called a (Longi), which is worn on top of an embroidered cap, and an enormous shawl which also can be used as a blanket for the night in case of need.

(Ahmadi) is a peasant. He has fought the Soviets and the Kabul government that is dependent on them for 8 years. He commands 3,000 Mujahidins and claims to have destroyed a dozen tanks and several airplanes in combat last year. He did not notice anything of the ceasefire unilaterally proclaimed by the Kabul party chief Najibullah in his region.

[Begin Ahmadi recording, in vernacular, fading into German translation] After the ceasefire proposal made by the government, the Russians carried out two attacks in our region. They employed 50 helicopters and this attack of the Soviets. of the Soviet Union, of the Soviet army, lasted 8 hours in our region. Many people were killed, and naturally also the basis for the people's existence was destroyed. [end recording]

The Mujahidin commander confirms what can now also be read in the U.S. *Time* magazine, that is, that the guerrilla fighters operating on the border with the Soviet Union can count on the sympathy and support of the Muslim population on the other side. Tajik tribes live in the vicinity of Amu border river in both Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

[Begin Ahmadi recording] The border between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union in that area only consists of a river, the Amu river, and there are forests on both its banks. Students from Tajik universities are studying in these areas — they rallied to join us. They tried to come to us across this border, the Amu Darya river. But only two arrived alive, many drowned, and many were arrested and most likely murdered. This is the one side. On the other side it is chiefly the shepherds who are in charge of the animals in the mountains who are trying to establish contact with us. [end recording]

The alliance to which (Ahmadi) and his men belong, which comprises seven Islamic parties and has its headquarters in Peshawar, has so far strictly rejected all proposals from Kabul and Moscow for reconciliation and understanding. It will fight as long as there are foreign troops in the country.

But not all resistance groups endorse this Islamic alliance. The group around the newspaper (*Afghan Mella*), which describes itself as social democratic, is one of the few non-Islamic parties that is sighting the Kabul regime. Party leader and chief editor (Habad Farhat) does not exclude the possibility of a political solution by means of enlisting King Zahir Shah who lives in exile in Rome.

[Begin Farhat recording in German] The time under the king was a good time and the people were quiet and people think that if the king returns all the old things will return as well — the economy, security, and peace, and all that will return. This is why the people are for the king. [end recording]

The king himself has so far only commented very cautiously on rumors that he might reassume a political function. But the country possesses few political personalities who enjoy nationwide prestige and both the armed opposition and the government camp are weakened by internal conflicts.

Spokesman Denies Armed Clashes With PRC

BK151545 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1537 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] A spokesman of the Defense Ministry has categorically denied that there have been any armed clashes between India and China along the Sino-Indian border as reported in a section of the foreign press. The reports had said there had been armed clashes including some in Aksai Chin. The spokesman said these reports are baseless and incorrect.

Protesters at U.S. Embassy Oppose Pakistan Aid

BK151244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] A demonstration to protest against the supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan by the United States was held in front of the American Embassy in New Delhi today. It was organized jointly by the All India Freedom Fighters Organization and the National Citizens Forum. Mr Shilbhadra Yaji and Shashi Bhushan, who led the demonstrations, submitted a memorandum to the American Embassy. It said the militarization of Pakistan not only threatens peace in the subcontinent, but also jeopardizes Asian security.

Gandhi Hits U.S. on Practicing 'Double Standard'

BK161504 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 16 May 87

[Excerpts] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has called upon the people to remain vigilant against the forces of destabilization and disintegration trying to weaken the country from within and outside. Addressing a mammoth rally at the Boat Club grounds in New Delhi today, he said we should identify these forces, expose them and root them out. [passage omitted]

Referring to the constitutional issues being raised recently, Mr Gandhi made a comparison with the controversies that cropped up in Pakistan before its democracy was overthrown. He said we should not forget that Pakistan has not seen democracy since then. Mr Gandhi expressed his government's determination to take the harshest steps to frustrate the attempts to subvert the constitution. He asserted that his government has always acted on the basis of the constitutional provisions. The government is answerable not to any individual, but to Parliament and people, he asserted.

Referring to the Punjab problem, Mr Gandhi said terrorists and fundamentalists will be dealt with an iron hand and the so-called Khalistan will be never created. [passage omitted]

On the security environment, Mr Gandhi said new types of weapons are being inducted in the region to put pressure on India. He pointed out that country after country had fallen victim to the destabilization game of the imperialist powers, but India will not succumb to this. India is in a position to give a fitting reply to its neighboring country that is acquiring weapons. He charged the United States with double standards on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Issue. [passage omitted]

Speaks of 'Pressures'

BK160945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has asked the people to remain vigilant against forces of destabilization and disintegration trying to weaken the country from both within and outside. Addressing a mammoth rally at the Boat Club in New Delhi today, Mr Gandhi said we should identify these forces, expose them, and root them out. The people should come forward to face the challenge posed by these forces to the country's constitution and democracy. The rally was organized to meet the challenge posed by subversive forces.

Mr Gandhi cautioned the people against the new type of pressure which is being mounted by vested interests to derail the country from the time-tested path of socialism and nonalignment. He declared amid cheers from the milling crowd that no power on earth can force India to change its path of independent economy. Mr Gandhi said today the constitution is being challenged. He said the constitution is 36 years old and well established and strong enough to withstand any pressure. Mr Gandhi declared that his government has always acted on the basis of the constitutional provisions and has not deviated from the traditions set by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Mr Gandhi said that he had replied to those who have raised the issue. The government will ensure that nobody does anything to weaken the constitution and the country.

Referring to Punjab, Mr Gandhi said a new type of movement was launched there to destabilize the country. Now the whole world knows that terrorists were receiving training in a neighboring country and help from abroad. The police force in the state was being pressurized by ministers of the Barnala government. We had no alternative than to intervene.

Mr Gandhi referred to the recent allegations relating to the Fairfax issue and the defense deals. He said nobody has placed any facts before the government. Mr Gandhi announced that if anybody comes out with concrete evidence action will be taken against those involved however powerful they may be.

Mr Gandhi referred to the economic and developmental programs and said two-thirds of the country's population has come above the poverty line. Ninety three percent of the total development requirement is being generated from within. We have not sold the country to the multinationals and transnationals. Mr Gandhi said the 20-point program has been strengthened. The government is going to remove the grievances of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The Scheduled Caste Commission is being vested with more powers. Mr Gandhi announced that the government will introduce a new life insurance policy for landless labor. The entire premium will be borne by the government.

The rally was organized by the Delhi State Congress-I Committee. A large number of members of parliament, union ministers, chief ministers of several states and other leaders were present.

Gandhi Defends President's Rule in Punjab

BK151302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The prime minister has said once the situation in Punjab improves, any party which proves majority on the floor of the house will be given a chance to form a government. Addressing a group of Sikh leaders who called on him in New Delhi today, Mr Gandhi expressed confidence that an atmosphere will be created in the state toward this end. Mr Gandhi said the worsening law and order situation in Punjab and rise in terrorist killings in last 1 and 1/2 months were among the reasons which forced the center to impose president's rule. He said even though the situation in the state assumed alarming proportions, the center did not intervene since the Punjab police was taking steps to control it.

The group, which was led by Mr S.S. Ahluwalia, member of parliament, welcomed the imposition of president's rule in Punjab.

30 Sikhs Arrested in Gun Battle

BK161536 Hong Kong AFP in English 1526 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] New Delhi, May 16 (AFP) — At least 30 Sikhs were arrested and arms and ammunition seized after a gunbattle in New Delhi, police said Saturday.

The gunbattle broke out late Friday after police tried to enter a Sikh temple in the Southern part of the Indian capital, Area Police chief P.R.S. Brar told *Agence France-Presse*.

"We had secret information that some wanted Sikh militants were hiding in the Gurdwara (Sikh temple) and when we tried to enter the complex, they began firing at us," Mr Brar said.

In the hour-long gunbattle, Sikhs shot some 70 rounds at police who returned fire till the Sikhs surrendered, Mr Brar said.

No casualties were reported.

Police alleged that some of the arrested Sikhs had escaped from Punjab after the northern state was brought under direct federal rule Monday. Others came from neighbouring Himachal Pradesh and Haryana.

Mr Brar said 10 rifles and guns, three revolvers and a huge cache of cartridges were seized from the temple.

2 'Dreaded Terrorists' Arrested

BK171306 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, the police captured two dreaded terrorists after an encounter in Hoshiarpur District this morning. According to the state police chief, Mr Ribeiro, a police party checking a bus was fired upon by them. Mr Ribeiro said that about 100 youths out of over 750 arrested so far have been released by the police after a warning. He said that the government has decided to lift most of the permanent check-posts on the roadsides and will instead carry out surprise checking of the vehicles.

In Jullundur, two extremist gangs and four activists of the All India Sikh Students Federation involved in various crimes were also arrested.

'Miscreants' Kill 2 Policemen

BK171606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Two policemen were killed and one seriously injured in an attack by miscreants at Hima Falls in Darjeeling District of West Bengal early this morning. Official sources told our Kurseong correspondent that the police fired several rounds in self-defense but no one was injured. The miscreants escaped under the cover of darkness. Senior officials have rushed to the site. Meanwhile, the Gurkha National Youth Front has called off its proposed indefinite strike in government offices and educational institutions in Kurseong subdivision of Darjeeling District.

Police Kill 2 in Gujarat Town

BK171612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] In Gujarat, two people were killed and five injured when police opened fire to disperse violent mobs indulging in stone throwing and arson in Broach today. The state director general of police, Mr Manmohan singh, told our Ahmedabad correspondent that 10 others were injured in stabbing incidents. The violence sparked off following a road accident. Police patrolling is continuing in the city and the situation is now reported to be under control.

Day, Night Patrolling Increased

BK170909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, 183 more suspected extremists and their sympathizers have been arrested since yesterday. This raises the total number of such arrests following the promulgation of president's rule in the state to 765. Meanwhile, according to an official spokesman, day and night patrolling by the police and the paramilitary forces in the sensitive areas and raids on the hideouts of the suspected terrorists have been further intensified.

Security Tightened in Delhi

BK180316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Security has been tightened in the capital following reports of possible infiltration of terrorists from Punjab in view of the crackdown in the state. Delhi police have advised the public to be vigilant against suspicious persons and unclaimed objects.

'Terrorists' Gone Underground

BK180322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, 46 more extremists have been arrested taking the total to 811. According to an official spokesman, most of the dreaded terrorists have gone underground and intensive efforts are being made to trace them.

Kidnapped Tripura Assembly Member Found 14 May

BK141017 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] In Tripura, the kidnapped CPI-M MLA [Member of Legislative Assembly], Mr (Len Prasad Malsai), and his bodyguard were found this morning after a massive combing operation. They were kidnapped by a group of TNV [Tripura National Volunteers], extremists. According to the director general of police, Mr H.C. Jadav, the gang tried to take them to Bangladesh. Efforts to catch the culprits are continuing.

Gandhi Hints at Presidential Candidate From South

BK170911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi has said that the Congress-I party is trying to find out a candidate for the forthcoming presidential election generally acceptable to all and who can carry everybody with him. He was answering queries by newsmen at the Iftar [Muslim fast-breaking] dinner hosted in New Delhi yesterday by the Congress-I general secretary, Dr Najma Heptullah. Mr Gandhi indicated that this time the party candidate might be from the south.

Sri Lanka Asked To Avoid Civilian Casualties

BK160955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] India has told Sri Lanka to observe utmost restraint to avoid civilian casualties in any military action in the Jaffna peninsula. The message was conveyed by the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit, to the ministers of national security and of foreign affairs when he met them in Colombo yesterday. He reiterated India's commitment to find a peaceful solution to the ethnic problem without interfering in any manner in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka. The high commissioner said India is in the process of continuing its contacts with the representatives of Sri Lankan Tamil groups despite the violence in the recent weeks.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plaban Majumder, reports that three Politburo members of the TULF are reaching Delhi tomorrow for talks. Our correspondent adds that Mr Dixit impressed upon the Sri Lankan ministers the importance of Sri Lanka having a constructive attitude toward the peace process, particularly at this point of time. The Sri Lankan national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, reportedly told Mr Dixit that his government has taken note of India's concern over the impact of earlier operations and the civilian casualties in the northern peninsula.

Yaqub Khan on Upcoming U.S. Talks, France Visit

BK161614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has left Islamabad for Washington on a week's visit to the United States. In an interview prior to his departure, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that views will be exchanged during his talks in Washington mainly on the aid package for Pakistan which is at present under consideration by the Congress. He said that efforts will also be made during the talks to remove misunderstandings about the peaceful nature of Pakistan's nuclear program.

When asked whether Pakistan will be satisfied with the 2-year waiver for the aid agreement, Sahabzada Yaqub Kahn said we feel that a waiver of 6 years is necessary. He said that he will try to make Pakistan's viewpoint — which has been termed correct by the U.S. Administration — clearer to the U.S. authorities and Congressmen during his meetings with them.

The foreign minister said that he will also exchange views with U.S. leaders on Pakistan's request for an airborne early warning system, the violation of Pakistan's airspace by Afghan aircraft, and matters related to the bombing of Pakistani territories. He said that his talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and other leaders will be held in reference to bilateral relations. Apart from this, talks will also be held on Afghanistan and the security situation in our region. The U.S. secretary of state will apprise Sahabzada Yaqub Khan of his talks in Moscow on the Afghanistan issue.

During his stay in the United States the foreign minister is expected to meet the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, and exchange views with him on the early resumption of the next round of indirect talks in Geneva.

On his way back home, the foreign minister is expected to hold further talks with French Foreign Minister Raymond in Paris on the French proposal for an out-of-court settlement of the reprocessing plant issue. He will also exchange views on the conditional French offer of setting up a nuclear plant in Pakistan. He is also expected to exchange views on the Afghanistan issue and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's talks on the subject in Moscow.

MUSLIM Calls For Elections Before 1990

BK131038 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 5 May 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Reflecting the Popular Mood"]

[Text] Syed Fakhar Imam, Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly, probably articulates the sentiments of the predominant majority of Pakistanis when he calls for the separation of the offices of the President and the Army Chief of Staff in order to establish real civilian supremacy over the military. Ever since the present Assemblies came into being following an electoral exercise which many regarded as questionable because it excluded political parties, critics of the 'new' system argued, with justification, that so long as President Ziaul Haq holds on to his military post, the claim that real civilian democracy had been restored would lack credibility. Combining the two offices in effect means that the military has yet to be delinked from political power. And it is because General Ziaul Haq derives his power mainly from his military office rather than from the office of the President, whatever the constitutional arrangement, that it has been validly argued that he retains decisive authority over the political system, and by the same token, the civilian administration remains in reality subordinate to the military. There is no denying that since 1985 the country has taken several steps toward civilian democratic governance. But these steps are, at best, tentative and partial. To make the transition from military rule to democracy more genuine, it is necessary for President Ziaul Haq to shed his army office, and therefore to separate the army from political power. Otherwise the extraparliamentary opposition's charge that the present arrangement is the continuation of military rule 'by other means' will continue to ring true.

Mr. Fakhar Imam also voices popular sentiment when he urges elections before 1990. The present civilian incumbents can play a historic role as a bridge between martial law and genuine democracy if they accept the popular demand for fresh and fair elections. Their endeavours should be focused on evolving a national consensus before the country goes to the polls.

Despite its otherwise unspectacular performance, the image of Parliament is enhanced when voices like Fakhar Imam's reflect the popular mood. But the rest of the parliamentary membership ought also to pay heed to popular opinion.

SRI LANKA

Troop Movements 'Intensified' in Jaffna

BK160906 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, delayed reports reaching Colombo from Jaffna speak of considerable troop movement toward northern peninsula. The intensified movement of men and materiel of Security Forces has taken place over the past few days by land and sea. Reports say three ships carrying troops have reached (Mandativu). The troops have also moved on land from Vavuniya to Elephant Pass. Reports say some security personnel were also airlifted to the peninsula from Vavuniya. The soldiers at the Elephant Pass army camp have taken over 30 lorries. The government sources, however, denied the troop movement.

Jaffna Peninsula has been subjected to continuous shelling and helicopter strafing for the past 2 days. Travellers reaching Colombo yesterday said that Jaffna now is a ghost town with most shops closed down and the civilian population moving away.

Indian Ambassador Talks With Security Minister

BK161112 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Indian High Commissioner J.N. Dixit and National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali had talks on the current situation in the island in Colombo yesterday. The outcome of the discussions has not yet been disclosed. The Indian high commissioner will leave for New Delhi today. Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan high commissioner in India, Mr Bernard Tilakaratna, who was in Colombo for a couple of days, will also leave for New Delhi tomorrow. Mr Tilakaratna met Minister Lalith Athulathmudali several times during his stay in Colombo.

'Terrorists' Preparing To Bomb Cities, Towns

BK171118 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Separatist terrorists are preparing to bomb major cities and towns in the country within the next few days. Security sources believe that the targeted areas are in Kandy, Gampola, Matale, Kurunagala, and Polonnaruwa. The government advises the people in these areas to be extremely vigilant. The Media Center in Colombo requested the people to inform the nearest police station if they see a suspicious looking parcel, vehicle or any other object.

Musavi Reacts to Attack on U.S. Frigate in Gulf

LD181048 Tehran IRNA in English 1041 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 18, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here tday that Sunday's incidents in the Persian Gulf waters, particularly the Iraqi attack on a U.S. frigate off Bahrain, "shows that the Persian Gulf is not secure for the superpowers and it is in their interest not to enter this quicksand."

A Kuwaiti hired Soviet tanker also hit a mine in the Persian Gulf Sunday.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA, the prime minister added that the "Great Satan (U.S.) has been miserably trapped in this event." On the one hand, he said, it (Washington) has obliged itself to support Saddam and on the other, it has lost face due to an evident bungle. Musavi said the Reagan administration will certainly have much difficulty in justifying this embarassing issue before the American public and also the world, in general.

He said Sunday's events in the Persian Gulf have disgraced the superpowers and highlighted "our oppressed situation to the world." "These (incidents) are among divine blessings", added the premier.

The prime minister said these incidents once again proved the authenticity of the Islamic Republic's views and practically showed that security in the Persian Gulf is interlinked.

Musavi advised the U.S. and the USSR to stop encouraging Saddam to create tension in the Persian Gulf "if you want to avoid further humiliations before your own people and the world."

Otherwise, he warned, yesterday's incidents could and may naturally spread until oil exports are fully cut to the outside world.

The prime minister said Saddam and his regional backers are not happy over what has happened to the Soviet and U.S. ships. "We once again offer them a friendly advice to forego their present policy and rest assured that friendship with Iran is better than friendship with U.S. and USSR."

In conclusion, Musavi advised Kuwaiti Muslim revolutionaries to beware of their government's "eccentric decisions" adding that "this has taken the Kuwaiti Government closer to the edge of a precipice."

Musavi-Ardabili: No Hesitation To Hit U.S. Ships

LD151545 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1203 GMT 15 May 87

[Friday Prayers sermon by 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili, provisional Friday imam, at Tehran University on 15 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted on first sermon dealing with religious matters and historical events] As for us and the war, Saddam and us: Everyone has said this of us and we have heard this from everyone — namely, the war will continue until the downfall of the criminal Saddam. [chants of God is Great and slogans from the crowd] This is not a simple demand; this is not something over which one can argue, haggle, compromise, or something to talk about in meetings. This is a revolutionary, strategic objective. No one, not a single person, not a single group would allow themselves — nor do they have the power — to deviate from the fundamental revolutionary slogan. [chant of God is Great and other slogans] [passage omitted]

In the imposed war and in other matters, our ummah have been tested. It has been proved that all problems will be crushed like a piece of ice trampled upon in the face of revolutionary objectives. Our dear ummah has learned this lesson from the Koran. He has learned it from 'Ali and from history. This filty germ, this 'Aflaqi Saddam has now reached a stage where he has lost control of Iraq's security. Even in the capital, Baghdad, there is no security now. There is an uprising in northern Iraq. This is the situation that you can see. Saddam has decided that in order to extricate himself from the northern problem, he has ordered the people in the north to evacuate. The people have resisted; house by house, street by street, valley by valley there is a war in progress there now. Bombing raids are carried out, chemical weapons are used, people are being killed. This is the scene. [passage omitted]

According to calculations, Iraq has to repay some $17 billion of war debt this year alone. This is Iraq's plight now. Meanwhile, the representatives of the UN Security Council came over, investigated and reported that Iraq had time and again used chemical and poison weapons, and they condemned the Iraqi use of chemical and poison bombs. They love Iraq so much that they did not condemn Iraq; they did not condemn Iraq by name. But it is obvious who is condemned. This is the situation now; even Iraq's friends have been able to say this much. At present, Saddam has no base. His only bases are the world's superpowers [as heard]. But even they have changed their line of reasoning. Until yesterday, they protected Saddam so that he could protect their interests in the region. Now they have discovered that he is far too incompetent to protect himself, let alone their interests. Today they say: What can we do? We have spent money; our money is at stake. If he should go to hell, where can we get our blood money from? [passage omitted]

So we will not go back on our word. Mr [Richard] Murphy says — and this is what both America and Saddam say — that the war should stop and the issue resolved at the negotiating table. Even if we did not have dozens of reasons to reject this, we would still do so for this reason — namely that Saddam and America are chanting this in unison — that is enough reason to reject it. In other words, the call for stopping the war and making peace is something American in origin. If we wanted to accept an imposed peace, then why not accept the imposed war as well?

Our revolution is anti-American in character. In other words, anything America says we reject. [chant of God is Great and other slogans by the crowd] One excuse is that if Saddam were to go Iraq might split up. Iran is the foremost defender of Iraq's independence and territorial integrity. We have said time and again and declared to the whole world that we will defend Iraq just as strongly as we are defending our own territorial integrity

and independence. [chant of God is great and other slogans] The Iraqi nation is not at fault. We are one victim of aggression, and the Iraqi nation is another. We must deliver both nations, with God's blessings.

We consider the statement calling on us to stop the war and to go to the negotiating table to be just as stupid as the move by someone who drags the superpowers into the Persian Gulf in order to protect his security. Both are equally stupid. Is Persian Gulf security being threatened? Who is threatening it? No one is threatening Persian Gulf security. If someone is being threatened, it is not a threat to the Persian Gulf. It is a treachery to protect a war criminal. And protection of a war criminal will have its consequences .

Murphy has said Iran must know that an American ship is not like a Kuwaiti ship, to hit easily. I warn Murphy here and now that he must know that if our combatants, our military personnel, hesitate to hit a Kuwaiti ship for consideration of neighborliness and other things, they will not hesitate to hit an American ship even for one moment. [Chant of God is great and other slogans] [Koranic verses]

Communiques, Reports Detail Naval, Ground Action

Communique on Naval Battle

LD151622 Tehran IRNA in English 1608 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 15, IRNA — A military communique released here Friday said Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched five cargo ships and oil tankers sailing under foreign flags in the Strait of Hormuz but found no Iraqi-bound cargo aboard them. They also shelled and forced to flee two enemy vessels which had appeared in the Khowr 'Abdallah waterway last night.

Communique 6225 [as received] of the Joint Staff Command said at least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed and several enemy engineering vehicles set ablaze in Panjwin, northwestern fronts, yesterday when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire. In Sayyid Sadiq, Shanehdari and Nalpariz [as received], relocation activities of Iraqi forces were suppressed by Iranian artillery fire.

Elsewhere in the northwestern fronts Thursday, Muslim forces of Iran carried out 32 successful intelligence-gathering missions, and all Iranian patrol convoys returned safely to bases. Iranian anti-aircraft fire repelled Iraqi airplanes and patrol helicopters in Sayyid Sadiq, Sar Dasht and Baneh, northwestern fronts, Thursday.

In the western fronts, Iranian forces opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions yesterday, inflicting substantial losses in men and equipment on enemy troops and halting their engineering operations which included setting up of barriers and mine fields.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire pounded Iraqi positions in the southern fronts yesterday destroying some watch towers and killing enemy scouts. In Hoseyniyeh, a number of heavy enemy vehicles were also damaged.

Iranian gendarmerie forces responded to Iraqi artillery fire in parts of the southern and western fronts yesterday, killing a number of enemy troops and setting afire some vehicles of theirs, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Naval Base Destroyed

LD151810 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Ahvaz Khuzestan Prov., May 15, May 15, IRNA — Coastal artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) continued shelling Iraqi economic and military targets in 'Umm Qasr port over the past 24 hours, inflicting heavy damage on them.

An Iraqi naval base, two headquarters of the 7th Division and 7th Corps and oil installations along 'Umm Qasr port were destroyed in the Iranian shelling carried out in retaliation for recent enemy mischievous acts in bombing Iranian economic and industrial centers. The port is now engulfed in black smoke billowing from the destroyed Iraqi centers.

A large number of enemy soldiers were also killed or wounded in the Iranian retaliatory attack.

Claims of Basra Shelling Denied

LD160808 Tehran IRNA in English 0747 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 16, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) categorically denied Iraqi allegations that Iran shelled the Iraqi port city of Basra, Friday.

In its military communique the Ba'thist regime's army had claimed that Basra was under the fire of Iranian artillery on Friday in which a number of civilians were killed or wounded.

A WIH spokesman, refuting these allegations told IRNA Saturday that as Iran's Military Communique No. 2837 stressed, in response to Iraqi mischiefs and attacks on a number of industrial units in Iran, Al-Haretha power plant and Banmil oil installations in southern and eastern Iraq respecitively were brought under heavy long-range artillery fire of Iranian combatants for a period of 24 hours, starting Friday. But, the spokesman added, no bullets had been fired on Basra. "Allegations of th Ba'th Army are shere fabrications and baseless," the spokesman said.

'Umm Qasr Shelled 16 May

LD161546 Tehran IRNA in English 1503 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., May 16, IRNA — Iraqi economic-military installations came under coastal artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Friday night and Saturday in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on industrial sites in Iran.

Two fuel reservoirs and several munitions depots of the enemy were destroyed during the shelling thick smoke of which engulfed vast parts of the region.

Communique No 2838

LD161556 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 16, IRNA — Some 1,500 residents of the Iraqi cities of (Zour) and Halabja, Sulaymaniyah Province, took refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran Friday in order to escape the tyranny and oppression of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime which is indiscriminately bombing the cities.

Announcing the above here Saturday, the 2838th joint staff communique said that Iran's Navy gunboats, in addition to guarding the southern Iranian coastal border, intercepted and searched 20 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but found no suspicious cargo aboard them.

Iranian gendarmerie forces inflicted several casualties on Iraqi troops and destroyed 13 enemy gun emplacements in parts of the southern and western fronts yesterday.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded and five enemy bunkers and observation posts and a munitions dump set ablaze in a western front Friday when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire.

In the northwestern fronts Friday, heavy Iranian artillery fire killed or wounded a number of Iraqi soldiers, destroying three enemy vehicles and some bunkers.

Muslim forces of Iran successfully gathered intelligence on the key Iraqi positions throughout the fronts Friday when an Iranian patrol convoy discovered and seized some Iraqi ammunition and explosives in areas overlooking the northwestern front of Sar Dasht.

Iraqi engineering operations such as setting up obstacles and barbed wire fences as well as movement of enemy vehicle columns were checked in areas overlooking Naft-e-Shahr, western fronts.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts yesterday, raging somewhat more heavily in Sharhani and Zeyd where a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and several enemy gun emplacements destroyed. Elsewhere in Bejliyeh, Pichangizeh and Kushk, Iraqi tanks suffered some damage and their fire was silenced by Iranian artillery fire.

Artillery fire of Iranian muslim combatants prevented a group of enemy troops from fortifying their positions and repairing supply routes in areas overlooking Hoseyniyeh and east of Basra Friday, the communique concluded.

Communique No 2839

LD171656 Tehran IRNA in English 1629 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed economic and military targets in the northern Iraqi city of Dahuk, 175 kms deep inside Iraqi territory, Sunday, inflicting considerable damage. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing mission which occurred at 07:58 GMT.

Announcing the above here today, the 2839th Joint Staff Communique also said Iranian navy gunboats intercepted and searched 19 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Saturday but found no Iraqi-destined cargo aboard.

Muslim forces of Iran continued fortifying their positions and shelling Iraq targets with artillery, tank and mortar fire throughout the fronts especially in the southern fronts.

Iranian artillery fire inflicted heavy damage on an Iraqi tank unit moving east of Basra, southern fronts, yesterday. Enemy engineering operations were also checked in Majnun islands, Kushk and Talayeh [name as received].

At least 10 Iraqi gun emplacements, one artillery piece and several light and heavy vehicles were destroyed in a western front yesterday when hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian gendarmerie forces responded to Iraqi artillery fire in parts of the southern and western fronts Saturday, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying 10 gun emplacements and one command jeep of theirs.

Movement of Iraqi vehicle columns, enemy engineering operations and reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were checked or disrupted in Qasr-e Shirin, Helaleh, and Pichangizeh [name as received] theaters.

An Iranian patrol convoy despatched to the northwestern fronts yesterday discovered and seized a considerable amount of Iraqi communication equipment and light weapons, the communique concluded.

Navy To Hold Maneuvers in 'Early Summer'

LD151917 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 15 May 87

["Iranian Naval Maneuvers Slated for Early Summer" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, May 15, IRNA — The Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran will in the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz in early summer, said Navy Commander Commodore Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan, here Thursday. [sentence as received]

Commodore Malekzadegan made the announcement to a gathering in Tehran where he said that various naval units will display their combat power in the upcoming maneuvers in order to test and further increase the Navy's response timing to plots of world arrogance in the two sensitive waterways.

He also said that hundreds of cargo ships suspected of carrying goods for Iraq were inspected by Iranian naval units last year.

Commodore Malekzadegan stressed that the Iranian Navy will continue to exercise its right to intercept and inspect ships suspected of carrying goods for the enemy at any time and place and that nothing, neither the flag nor the owner of the ships, can prevent the Iranian Navy from carrying out its mission.

Further Reports on Kurdish Uprising in Iraq

Spokesman on 'Pitched Battle'

LD151805 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 15, IRNA — Iraqi Ba'thist troops are still fighting the revolting Kurdish people in three Iraqi cities of Halabjah, Khurmal and Sayyid Sadiq, said a spokesman for Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) here Friday. He noted that the state forces have suffered heavy losses and casualties.

The KDP spokesman said that Iraqi troops launched all-out attacks on defenceless people in Khurmal, Sayyid Sadiq and Halabjah Wednesday in an effort to put down the just struggle of Kurds and to evacuate and set afire the cities.

But, he added, the residents of the cities along with KDP forces and strugglers of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) staged popular revolts in the cities in response to the inhuman attacks of the Ba'thist forces.

The revolting Kurds took control of the strategic Halabjah-Sayyid Sadiq road, and are engaged in pitched battle with Iraqi troops, the spokesman said.

He said a large number of Iraqi military equipment, including one anti-aircraft gun, 34 machine-guns, 72 Kalashnikov machine-guns, 22 various artillery pieces, 10 communication sets, two RPG-11 launchers, 103 rounds of shells, and 6,690 cartridges have so far been seized by the Kurdish strugglers.

Insurrection 'Gaining Momentum'

LD160839 Tehran IRNA in English 0815 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 16, IRNA — The uprising of Iraqi Muslims in Sulaymaniyah province, northeastern Iraq, against the ruling Ba'thist regime is gaining momentum.

According to the last reports 120 of local Iraqi forces have defected and joined the revolutionaries during the past two days.

Meanwhile the revolting masses of Sulaymaniyah Province helped by the forces of the Iraqi Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) have purged the Ba'thist troops and taken complete control of the supply roads of Sayyid Sadiq-Sirawan as well as Sayyid Sadiq-Khurmal, on Thursday and Friday.

During the fighting continuing since the last two days, 30 Iraqi Ba'thists were captured and three thanks, an anti-aircraft gun and several vehicles wre destroyed. Considerable amount of military equipment was also seized intact.

In the meantime the Iraqi Ba'thist regime savagely attacked villages in the region with warplanes and helicopter gunships.

Informed sources said that Gardgou, Tappe Zarrineh, Tappe Kal, Alan, Hasel, Dolash villages of Sulaymaniyah Province were set afire in the air attacks and a group of innocent villagers were martyred or wounded.

Kurds 'Continuing Resistance'

LD161915 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 16 (IRNA) — Insurrectionists in Halabjah and Sayyid Sadiq are continuing their resistance fight with the rebellion spreading to several Iraqi cities in Dahuk province, according to reports reaching here from inside Iraq today.

The reports said Iraq indiscriminately bombed Halabjah and Sayyid-Sadiq towns under the control of the revolutionaries, martyring 50 and wounding 70 people in Halabjah alone. The casualties are mostly women and children.

Claims that Iraqi state forces control the aforesaid towns are completely baseless and people of other Kurdish areas are said to be joining the Muslim revolutionaries, the reports said.

Meanwhile, pitched battles continued Friday between Kurdish freedom-lovers and Iraqi troops who attempted to retake control of Shaqlawah District of Irbil Province.

According to Ramadan headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Baathist agents destroyed mosques and houses of theologians with T.N.T. in order to prevent the insurrection from spreading to other areas.

Baghdad Summons Governors

LD161925 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., May 16, IRNA — Commanders of Iraq's first and fifth corps together with governors general of Sulaymaniyah and Irbil were simultaneously summoned to Baghdad, Friday.

Informed political-military sources term the urgent summons of the ranking Iraqi officials to the capital as sign of the increasing turmoil in northern Iraq.

The Iraqi regime, the sources said, is terribly concerned about the pace at which Halabjah and Sayyid Sadiq fell and the fact that hundreds of Iraqi soldiers and local officials of the two towns surrendered to the revolutionaries.

According to reports reaching here from [words indistinct], Baghdad is attempting to seize the initiative by taking advantage of the suitable summer-time climate of northern Iraq and equip southern Iraqi tribesmen and encourage them to migrate to the northern areas in order to foment civil war between them.

Iraqi information minister, Latif Nusayyif Jasim recently proposed a plan on the basis of which the southern tribesmen will be authorised to protect northern Iraqi cities, said the reports.

Meanwhile, the Baghdad regime has banned people from travelling to other provinces through Baghdad-Irbil and Baghdad-Sulaymaniyah roads.

Iraqi Army in 'Disarray'

LD170922 Tehran IRNA in English 0857 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 17, IRNA — Following the mass uprising in northern Iraq, the Iraqi army is in a state of disarray, with its personnel deserting and joining forces with the Kurdish combatants. Commander of Iraq's 'Khafifeh' company of Battalion 14 together with 21 of the personnel under his command recently defected to the peshmergas of the Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP). Later, the defecting commander Hassan Haji Saleh and his men launched a joint operation with peshmergas in the Najleh [name as received] Dam region, capturing 20 Iraqi forces, two vehicles and a loader.

In another development, the peshmergas in an ambush on the Zakhu-Tohfeh [name as received] road, killed six Iraqi forces and destroyed their vehicle, last week.

Meanwhile, the Baghdad rulers continuining their crimes against oppressed Kurdish people, shelled four villages in Irbil Province last week, killing or injuring a number of Kurd civilians and forcing a group of others to migrate.

In response to this inhuman act of the Iraqi regime, forces under the command of Ramadan Headquarters along with peshmergas of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the KDP in a coordinated operation, killed 10 Ba'thist forces and injured 20 others. The Iraqi forces, unable to resist Kurdish combatants, left their munitions behind and fled from the area.

Deportees Report Attacks

LD170935 Tehran IRNA in English 0859 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 17, IRNA — The Iraqi regime once again committed another crime by expelling a group of Muslim Kurds from their homeland.

In a talk to IRNA, the deported Iraqi Kurds said that during the past weeks, Iraqi planes had strafed Kurdistan areas, making homeless thousands of Kurdish people.

Referring to the cooperation of Muslim forces of Iran with the Iraqi Kurdish peshmergas in their recent operations, Mulla Hassan 'Ali Muhammad Said, a Kurdish alim, said that Sulaymaniyah and Halabjah were scenes of fierce clashes between the people and Iraqi forces during the past days. He said that Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, Khurmal and Sirwan were under full control of the uprising masses

Another deportee, Razgar 'Abdullah Muhammad said that the tyranny of the Baghdad regime had also affected universities. He said that university students had been forcefully dispatched to war fronts.

Further referring to cromes of the Baghdad regime, another deported Iraqi Kurd Haydar Muhammad Ahmad said that Iraqi planes and helicopters massacred hundreds of Kurdish women and children in Kurdish-populated areas. He added that Iraqi forces who participated in suppression activities, had come to their senses and were putting down their arms and surrendering to the Kurdish combatants.

Kurds' Successes Detailed

LD172043 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The Muslim Kurdish Iraqi forces, in a series of successful operations have crushed the headquarters of (Batufeh) Brigade, headquarters of the (Dukmia) Batallion, a number of bases located on (Batufeh-Kanimasnow), 10 bases in the (Deynluke) as well as a base on the (Sarsang-Savareh Tuka) using light and heavy weapons. They also carried out a series of operations in the Shaykhan Region and (Batufeh-Sakhu) axis, which resulted in the annihilation of one officer, eight soldiers, and eight local mercenaries. Three enemy vehicles were also set on fire. Our reports indicate that the incapable enemy in retaliation to the successful operations of the Kurdish strugglers retaliated against the defenseless people in the villages around (Balestan) and (Bazian) region using air support in an extensive offensive. A number of villages around (Bazian) were set on fire.

The enemy was faced with determined resistance of the Muslim Iraqi Kurds in all other villages and was forced to retreat after suffering some damage and losses.

VII.	WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
VIII.	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include: International Affairs Inter-African Affairs Central Africa Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Rwanda Sao Tome & Principe Zaire East Africa Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia Tanzania Uganda Indian Ocean Comoros Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles Southern Africa Angola Botswana Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Republic of South Africa Reunion Swaziland Zambia Zimbabwe Western Africa Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Islands The Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Ivory Coast Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

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